

ESTABLISHED 1870

NEW BRITAIN, CONNECTICUT, THURSDAY, JANUARY 21, 1926.—SIXTEEN PAGES

PRICE THREE CENTS

BERLIN GRAND LIST JUMP; NEARLY DOUBLE LAST YEAR; CUT IN TAX RATE EXPECTED

Total Is \$7,901,439,
Compared With As-
sessment of \$4,523,-
010 In Previous List.

American Paper Goods Co.
Few Objections to Raises
Increased by \$513,300—
Reported.

Showing a total figure of \$7,901,439 the grand list of the town of Berlin has been completed, the first list to be compiled since the installation of the new system of assessment in that town. The figure is almost double that of last year and notices of increase in assessment, in amounts anywhere from twelve to ten times previous valuations, have been sent to taxpayers throughout the town. Last year's list totaled \$4,523,010.

A reduction of nearly 50 per cent in the tax rate of the town will be made possible this year. In the case of nearly every one of the heavily assessed individuals, the figures have been gone over by them in conjunction with Edward A. McCarthy, appraisal engineer of the Municipal Service Co., New Britain, under the direction of which the work has been handled. It is understood that practically all of them have agreed to accept the figures as compiled, taking no appeals before the board of relief.

Biggest Single Year Increase
This is the largest increase in valuation in the town of Berlin for any one year in its history. While some of the smaller taxpayers are voicing strenuous objections, those who are assessed for much larger amounts are willing to accept the figures because of the fact that the tax rate will be cut down and in the long run, the amount to be paid by each individual will probably not be much more than has been paid in past years. Most of the objections are coming from those who do not understand the system and do not realize of what benefit such a system will be to the town, it is said.

The highest taxed industrial plant in the town is the American Paper Goods Co., the assessment of which has been doubled this year, the valuation in the present grand list being \$1,513,300. Last year this plant was put at \$756,650. The Berlin Construction Co. took a drop this year, the figure being \$172,350, while last year it was \$174,425. The Stanley Chemical Co., the third highest in the list of firms, is assessed at \$110,200 this year; last year's valuation was \$102,050.

Allying Highest Individual
Willard L. Alling is highest on the list of individual taxpayers according to the grand list, a figure of \$4,959 being placed on his holdings. Last year \$4,176 was the amount upon which he was assessed. This year Mr. Alling passes out Harold L. Judd, who has been highest on the list for several years. Mr. Judd's figure this year is \$24,675; last year it was \$27,000.

There is a general rise in the valuations at the brick yards. The Donnelly Brick Co. this year is

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HARTFORD MAIL CLERK HELD IN \$1,000 BONDS

Frank B. Smith, Veteran of
23 Years' Service, Ac-
cused of Theft

Hartford, Jan. 21 (AP)—Entering a formal plea of not guilty to a charge of theft from the mails and awaiting examination before United States Commissioner Frederick J. Corbett, Frank B. Smith, a special clerk in the employ of the Hartford post office, was bound over to the federal court at New Haven in bonds of \$1,000. The bonds were provided by his wife, Lottie C. Smith. The accused was represented by Judge Edward L. Steele.

Smith was specifically charged with theft of \$5 from a special delivery letter which was dropped in the mails as a "test" letter by postal inspectors Courter of Hartford and Breslin of Boston.

The numbers of the bills had been taken by the inspectors and when the letter was not located in the sack, search was made and the bills were found in Smith's possession. It is said he has admitted to the federal authorities having taken letters from the mails during the last two years.

Smith was appointed a regular clerk at the Hartford office on July 1, 1903, and a special clerk on July 1, 1920. On a special clerk he had charge of the locking and opening of first class mail pouches. In the pouches were packages of letters, and special delivery letters were customarily placed at the top of these packages. It is claimed the special delivery letters were slipped from the packages just before the pouches were locked.

Smith was born in Hartford, November 23, 1874. His badge number 23 was taken from him this morning and he had been in the employ of the government 23 years. He lives at 213 Newbury street. His salary was \$2,400 a year.

CANNON BOOMS IN RUM SHIP CHASE

Ocean Going Tug Finally Cap-
tured by Govt. Agents

VALUED AT HALF MILLION

Doren Shots From One Pounder And
Hundreds of Shots From Machine
Gun Felled To Halt Crew Off
Sandy Hook.

New York, Jan. 21 (AP)—Marine police early today seized the ocean going tug Rescue with a cargo of liquor said to be worth more than half a million dollars after a chase off Sandy Hook in which half a dozen shots from a one-pounder were fired.

The Rescue, which is valued at about \$250,000 was formerly owned by the Merritt-Chapman Wrecking company. It had been recently overhauled and oil burners installed. The present owner is unknown to the police.

Many Shots Fired

A coast guard launch first observed the Rescue and fired a shot across her bow. The tug put up speed. Police launch No. 7, bearing the shots, joined the chase and fired several hundred rounds from machine guns, but the tug was not struck. The run runners was first heard clanging her way through the murk off the hook and the coast guard base threw a searchlight on her. It was the expected Rescue and a speedy guard boat was sent out to intercept her. The run runner put up speed and when the engine of the guard boat "died" the Rescue drew away and was enveloped in the mists.

Guardmen Blaze Away

The guardmen swung their one-pound gun into action and blazed at the disappearing run runner. It was the sound of the firing that brought the marine division police into the pursuit with launch No. 7, under the command of Sergeant Randolph.

The run runner ignored signals to stop and as she did not slow up the police launch opened fire. The Rescue was the faster craft and out-distanced the police launch, the run runner trading her way through the river craft past the Battery and up the East River with the police launch in eager pursuit.

Some Men Escape

A mile up the river the tug dogged into an East River slip. Soon after the Rescue came to a stop the launch swung into the dock and a score of men leaped from the run runner and disappeared. Water was rushing in the hold from the sea-cocks and the Rescue was almost sinking, clambered aboard. The four remaining men offered no resistance. The Rescue later was towed to the Battery where the coast guard began pumping her out.

Federal authorities immediately began to try to learn who owned the tug. The four crew members were taken to a police station, charged with violation of the Volstead act.

Coast guard officers said there was a possibility that the Rescue, which is of 327 tons and 200 feet long, may have brought the liquor across the ocean. They are making efforts to locate whether this is a fact or whether the liquor was transferred to the tug from a liner.

Some estimates place the value of the contraband as high as \$1,000,000 bootleg prices, but the exact value will not be known until a complete check is made.

QUARTER MILLION FIRE DAMAGE AT HAVERHILL

Small Shoe Factory and Business
This Morning.

Haverhill, Mass., Jan. 21 (AP)—Two early morning fires in this city destroyed a small shoe factory, damaged a business block in the business center, and caused loss estimated at \$250,000.

While all available apparatus in the city was engaged in fighting a fire in the Academy of Music theater building in Merriam street, the plant of the Roberts and Ruby Shoe company, Hillside avenue, caught fire in the boiler room and was burned to the ground. Lack of water pressure hampered the firemen when they finally reached the scene.

A nightwatchman discovered the fire in a room in the theater building and for nearly four hours the entire brigade fought to bring it under control. Today was the 14th anniversary of a fire which destroyed the old Academy theater building which occupied the same site. Three clothing stores on the street floor of the building and several offices and studios on the upper floors suffered heavy damage, and families in an adjoining apartment house were driven to the street. A fire wall saved the theater proper but considerable damage was caused to the interior by smoke and water.

Captain George Walker of the fire department and three of his men were carried from the building unconscious from the effects of gas and smoke. The loss to the building was placed at \$175,000.

\$2,000 HARTFORD BURGLARY
Hartford, Jan. 21 (AP)—Coats, skins and linings valued at more than \$2,000 were stolen from the New York Furriers and Designers store which was entered by thieves during the night.

Eclipse Baby Nears Her First Birthday



MARGARET ECLIPSE BASILE

Isn't she a "Bright Eyes"? This young lady is Margaret Eclipse Basile, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Basile of 37 Sheffield street. She was born on January 24, 1925, and will be one year old next Sunday. It will be recalled that on her birthday and on that account her parents christened her Eclipse. As far as known, she is the only child in the city bearing that name.

SICK PEOPLE GOT WHISKEY, HE SAYS

Tenn. Dist. Attorney Denies
That He Drank Any of It

DISAPPEARANCE EXPLAINED

Missing Five Gallons of Corn Liquor

And Where It Went Is Told To-
day in Judge Anderson's Investiga-
tion.

Washington, Jan. 21 (AP)—The senate judiciary committee had related to it today the tale of what became of five gallons of seized corn liquor deposited by prohibition agents in the federal court building at Memphis.

First off, S. E. Murray, district attorney for western Tennessee, testifying at an investigation into the conduct of Federal Judge Harry B. Anderson, denied that he drank it, but he told of the illness of several persons whose needs required it, and how it gradually seeped away.

According to the delivery of the five gallon container to his office and its transfer to the vault of the clerk of the court, E. J. Heidel, Murray continued:

Librarian Was Sick
"Soon afterward, Harry Letty, former mayor of Memphis, came to me and said Mr. Johnson, the librarian, was sick and needed some whiskey. Mr. Johnson died soon after. I went to Mr. Heidel with Letty, and Heidel poured out a quart which was taken to Johnson."

"A few days later Alfred Mason came to me and said our neighbor, Mr. Landon was very ill and needed liquor. I told him about giving Letty a quart and he went to Heidel and got some for Landon."

"This continued over a period of seven or eight months. Once or twice I carried the liquor myself. I did not touch a drop of it. I did not know the combination to the vault."

BECOMES BOOTLEGGER FOR DAUGHTER'S SAKE

Hartford Man Says He
Wanted Money to Take
Child to Doctor

Hartford, Jan. 21 (AP)—Samuel Eisner's desire to cure his two and one-half year old crippled daughter inspired him to enter into the illicit liquor trade, according to testimony in police court today.

His attorney told Judge Schatz that Eisner, who is a widower, had arranged for treatment by Dr. Lorenz, the famous Vienna surgeon, sometime ago. The father noticed signs of improvement in the child's condition and planned again to send her to one of the clinics instituted by Dr. Lorenz in New York, but sufficient funds were not available, the lawyer said, and Eisner decided to go into the liquor business.

Eisner was arrested Wednesday morning when the liquor squad raided the garage in the rear of 93 Love lane. Eisner admitted ownership of 25 gallons of alcohol discovered in the place.

Prosecuting Attorney John L. Honee told Judge Schatz that he was familiar with the story of Eisner's misdirected and misguided efforts in his daughter's behalf.

The court imposed a fine of \$200 and costs and suspended jail sentence of 10 days.

"It is well to provide for your child in a material way," said Judge Schatz, "but you cannot expect her to be particularly proud of her father's police record."

WILBUR VIGOROUS IN OBJECTING TO DEPT. OF DEFENSE

Tells House Military Committee
Hill Bill Would Virtually
Abolish the Navy

VICE PRESIDENT GETS
ANOTHER KNOCK TODAY

But Daves Laughs Off Jibe Result-
ing From His Recent Radio Tirade
—Rep. Blanton and Red. Reid
Meet This Morning But the
Threatened "Licking" Gives Place
to Surly "Good Mornings."

Washington, Jan. 21 (AP)—Secretary Wilbur, opposing before the house military committee today the Hill bill to create a department of national defense, declared there was nothing in the history of American wars to justify such change in the military establishment.

Representative Hill, republican, Maryland, author of the measure, explained the measure would merely change the status of the navy department, but Mr. Wilbur insisted there was no provision for the continuation of the navy personnel and that it would virtually abolish the navy.

The navy department had drawn bills to carry out the recommendations of the president's air board, said, including creation of the office of assistant secretary for air. Asked if the department really needed such an assistant, he said:

"We can get along with him or without him."

The department would not have considered the office necessary, he said, if the air board had not recommended it.

"The navy," he said, "has never turned its back on aviation. On the contrary, we have realized its importance."

In response to questions, Mr. Wilbur said it was "one of the greatest follies in this world scheme that no one but flier can direct the flight of planes."

Daves Again Rapped
Washington, Jan. 21 (AP)—Vice-President Daves and his campaign for revision of the senate rules again were put on the gridiron today on the senate floor.

Within a few minutes after the vice-president had taken his place in the chair of the presiding officer, Senator Reed, democrat, Missouri, punctuated with this observation, a discussion of "propaganda" in Washington.

"If this senate is to buckle to propaganda it will become so contemptible that it would not be worth while for the vice-president to continue his criticisms."

There was laughter in the galleries, and General Daves only smiled broadly while the ushers scurried about restoring quiet.

Blanton Is Subdued Today
Representative Blanton, democrat, Texas, substituted a silently nodded "good morning" for a promised "good looking" when he met Representative Reid, republican, Illinois, today, but he took occasion to assail Reid in a statement.

They eluded last night at a meeting of the house committee considering legislation for the District of Columbia, and the talk of a "licking" followed.

In his statement Blanton charged Reid with attempting "to hamper me in every ridiculous way possible" instead of cooperating in an effort to protect the rights of the people of Washington.

"When I learn that the 'cards are stacked,'" he said, "I quit the game. I am 'cold-decked,' I don't play on."

ADNA F. JOHNSON SUES FOR DIVORCE IN OHIO

Former New Britain Man Files
Action to Court at
Dayton.

(Special to The Herald.)
Dayton, Ohio, Jan. 21—Adna F. Johnson of 213 Wroe avenue, this city, on Monday filed divorce action against his wife, Anna A. Johnson, of New Britain, Conn. Mr. Johnson says he left New Britain on November 9, 1924, with his wife's consent.

Mr. and Mrs. Johnson were married on September 20, 1905. They have three children. An auto accident, a chauffeur, wrote a note begging his sweetheart's forgiveness and then committed suicide in his employer's automobile in Brooklyn today. The note, found in his pocket, read: "To my sweetheart; kindly forgive me forever."

**Writes Apology Note to
Sweetheart, Kills Self**
New York, Jan. 21 (AP)—William Rayde, a chauffeur, wrote a note begging his sweetheart's forgiveness and then committed suicide in his employer's automobile in Brooklyn today. The note, found in his pocket, read: "To my sweetheart; kindly forgive me forever."

THE WEATHER
Hartford, Jan. 21.—Forecast for New Britain and vicinity: Probably rain changing to snow tonight or Friday; colder Friday.

**COURT ISSUE WILL
NOT GIVE WAY TO
VOTE ON TAX BILL**

No Agreement on Dates and
Proponents of U. S. Entry
Will Keep It Before Senate

REVENUE ITEMS MUST BE
ACTED UPON VERY SOON

Otherwise Changes Cannot Become
Effective on March 15, Chairman
Smoot of Finance Committee Ex-
plains—Secretary Mellon Will Not
Oppose Tax Bill Reported to Sen-
ate as Compromise.

Washington, Jan. 21 (AP)—Failing to get an agreement for definite dates to vote on either the tax reduction bill or the world court, proponents of the court served notice today they would hold it continuous before the senate until a roll call was secured.

POLICE SNARE FOUR OF GANG SOUGHT FOR HOLD-UPS AND STEALING AUTOS

BUSINESS RECORD
OF FORMAN CITED

Admitted to Court in Spite of
Lawyer's Protest

\$25,000 ACTION CONTINUES

Edward Meshken, New Britain Furrier, Goes On Witness Stand To
Defend Himself in Suit Brought
For False Arrest.

(Special to The Herald.)
Hartford, Jan. 21—Over the objection of Lawyer Jacob Goodhart, counsel for S. B. Forman, Judge Matulis in the superior court, this morning during the trial of Forman against Edward Meshken of New Britain for \$25,000 damages for false arrest and malicious prosecution, allowed Lawyer John T. Robinson, counsel for Mr. Meshken, to read into the records and to the jury, the statement of the Fur Manufacturers' association of New York of the various business ventures of Forman and telling his members that Forman had no credit and warning them to be cautious in their dealings with him. The statement said that Forman had started in the fur business about 1906 and related that he had gone into bankruptcy on two occasions, in the first of which his creditors had received 60 per cent and in the second, 20 per cent. On another occasion he was in business in August, 1914, made an assignment and his creditors got nothing. He started again in Newark, N. J., and had a fire in his place of business and again went into bankruptcy. He went back to New York as a fur manufacturer, stayed there a short while and then opened a concern in Rochester a few doors away from another company of almost the same name. This company sued him for infringing on their name and that suit was in progress in December, 1922. The statement said that Forman had no credit in the association and it advised caution to the fur trade in dealing with him.

Meshken On Stand
The first witness called was Edward Meshken, the defendant in the trial. He started on his cross examination talking about the agreement made with Forman to prosecute him in Europe. He told of his visit with Forman to New York and said that on the return trip both of them got into New Britain on December 24th about 8 o'clock at night. He invited Forman to his house for supper but Forman said he would rather go to a restaurant. He asked Meshken what he had to eat at his house and Meshken said "Well, probably the girls will have some eggs, bread and butter or maybe something like that." Forman answered, "Well, I know there's a restaurant in town with a good chef and I would rather go there and

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WARRANT SOUGHT FOR WOMAN CLERK IN BANK

Mrs. Mae O'Meara of
Stamford Accused in
\$1,200 Misuse of Funds

Stamford, Jan. 21 (AP)—A warrant for the arrest of Mrs. Mae O'Meara, discount clerk at the Fidelity Title and Trust company, was asked for by Deputy Bank Commissioner Shipper, Bank Commissioner Shipp, of Assistant Prosecutor Edward O. Janson, this noon, at the request of State Bank Commissioner John F. Byrne.

The charge was made that there had been misuse of funds of the company to the amount of about \$1,200. The books had been under examination for two days and it was understood that a shortage of about the amount stated had been found and traced to the discount department.

At the bank it was stated that an offer had been made for restitution of any missing funds and that Mrs. O'Meara was being questioned as to her conduct of the discount department of which she was the clerk.

At this time, however, it was stated that a warrant had not been issued.

\$63,450 REDUCTIONS IN GRAND LIST ASKED

McCran Has Plan to
Equalize Values by
Streets

Many property owners who have
not appeared before the board of
relief and who do not intend to do
so will stand the same chance of having
their assessments cut as do many of
the applicants, if the board of relief
adopts a suggestion to be made
by Chairman Michael J. McCran.

Of the reductions sought, which aggregate \$63,450, by far the greatest majority is represented in applications for reduced assessments. This year's grand list includes recommendations of the land valuation committee revising assessments on many streets.

Chairman McCran feels if there are to be changes in the basic land assessments not only those who appear before the board but also all other property owners on those streets should be given a reduced assessment. The purpose of a basic land rate, Chairman McCran explains, is to equalize taxes, and if a reduction is to be granted one property owner while his neighbor owns similar properties is not so favored, all equalization will be lost, he fears.

Early appeals had been heard up to the close of business last night. This includes the following:

L. Abrahamson of 104 Commonwealth avenue, asking a \$1,000 reduction in an assessment of \$4,950; E. H. Peterson of 62 Commonwealth avenue, asking a \$250 reduction in an assessment of \$4,650; John P. Pilon of 108 Commonwealth avenue, asking a \$400 reduction in an assessment of \$4,200; Joseph Petak of 29 Gindola street, asking a \$1,000 reduction in an assessment of \$6,800; Charles McMurray of 32 Richards street, asking a \$550 reduction in an assessment of \$7,550; Carmen Motola of 135 Beaver street, asking a \$1,275 reduction in an assessment of \$16,275; Steven Chivolek of 62 LaSalle street asking a reduction of \$325 in an assessment of \$2,925; Sam Stein of 247 Tremont street, asking a \$100 reduction in an assessment of \$2,900; William Ely of 55 Myrtle street, asking a \$3,000 reduction in an assessment of \$11,300; Margaret Moore of 300 Washington street, asking an \$850 reduction in an assessment of \$8,800; Peter Jablonski of 167 Beaver street, asking an \$875 reduction in an assessment of \$2,500; M. R. Whaley of 179

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